

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 061195

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 61195 ACTION GENEVA INFO OECD PARIS 13
MAR

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 061195

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNCTAD

SUBJECT: TDB COMMODITIES DISCUSSIONS: JAPANESE CONCERNS
IN GOUP B DELIBERATIONS

1. JAPANESE EMBASSY MARCH 12 REQUESTED AND RECEIVED
APPOINTMENT WITH DEPT OFFICER TO DISCUSS DIRECTION OF
EVENTS AT UNCTAD TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD (TDB) DISCUS-
SIONS ON COMMODITIES. JAPANESE EMBASSY REP SAID THAT
THEIR DELEGATION HAD REQUESTED NEW INSTRUCTIONS TO DEAL
WITH QUESTION OF TABLING SUBSTANTIVE GROUP B PAPER AT TDB.
JAPANESE DELEGATION REPORTEDLY ADVISED BY GERMAN DELEGA-
TION TO SEEK NEW AND MORE FORTHCOMING INSTRUCTIONS FROM
TOKYO ON GROUNDS THAT EC WAS "ADAMANT" IN ITS DETERMINA-
TION TO TABLE SUBSTANTIVE GROUP B PAPER AT TDB. GERMANS
REPORTEDLY TOLD JAPANESE THAT THEY AND BELGIANS OBLIGED
TO ADHERE TO THIS COMMON EC POSITION.

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2. JAPANESE DELEGATION ALSO REPORTED THAT DIFFERENCES OVER EC DRAFT HAD BEEN NARROWED DOWN TO QUESTIONS ON HOW TO REFER TO INTEGRATED PROGRAM AND ON REWORDING IN SECTIONS DEALING WITH COMMODITY COVERAGE AND FOLLOWUP PROCEDURES.

3. ASKED FOR U.S. VIEWS, WE SAID THAT PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF GROUP B COUNTRIES IN TDB COMMODITY DISCUSSIONS SHOULD BE TO WORK OUT AN AGREED PAPER. AS FOR THE QUESTION OF TABLING A SUBSTANTIVE GROUP B PAPER, THE UNITED STATES WANTED TO AVOID SUBMITTING A PAPER THAT WOULD BE REGARDED BY THE G-77 AS NOTHING MORE THAN A NEW POINT OF DEPARTURE AT UNCTAD IV. ANY CONCEIVABLE GROUP 8 PAPER SUBMITTED AT THE TDB WOULD BE REGARDED BY THE LDCS AS FALLING FAR SHORT OF THEIR EXPECTATIONS.

4. TURNING TO POSSIBILITY THAT EC MIGHT UNILATERALLY TABLE ITS PAPER, WE TOLD JAPANESE EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE THAT, IN THIS EVENT, EC SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT FEEL BOUND TO AGREE TO THE EC PROPOSALS AT SOME LATER DATE.

5. WE ASKED THE JAPANESE EMBASSY TO RECOMMEND TO THEIR DELEGATION IN GENEVA THAT THEY CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THEIR CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE U.S. DELEGATION. INGERSOLL UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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